



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Paul Freiburger et al.
Assignee: Interval Research Corporation
Title: Attention Manager for Occupying the Peripheral
Attention of a Person in the Vicinity of a Display
Device
Serial No.: 08/620,641 Filed: March 22, 1996
Examiner: Jeffery A. Brier Group Art Unit: 2775
Attorney Docket No.: IR-003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

DECLARATION OF PAUL A. FREIBERGER
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, Paul A. Freiburger, hereby declare that:

1. I am an inventor of the invention of the above-referenced patent application.
2. I have reviewed the claims of the above-referenced patent application.
3. Prior to October 1995, I engaged in one or more discussions with Giles N. Goodhead, a co-inventor of the invention of this application, regarding an idea for a system in which a computer periodically acquires content data (in particular, data representing news stories) from one or more other computers and uses the content data to generate a display of one or more images on a display device of the computer whenever the computer has been inactive for a predetermined duration of time.

4. Prior to October 1995, subsequent to the above-described discussion(s) with Giles Goodhead, I engaged in one or more discussions with Philippe Piernot regarding the above-described idea. During these discussion(s), Philippe informed me that he had recently developed a computer program that periodically acquired content data from a Web site and displayed an image generated from the content data as "wallpaper" on a display device of the computer on which the computer program was executing. As a result of our discussion(s), Philippe modified his computer program so that the content data was used to generate a display of one or more images on the display device whenever the computer had been inactive for a predetermined duration of time.

5. Prior to October 1995, subsequent to the above-described discussion(s) with Philippe Piernot, and development and modification of the above-described computer program, Philippe and I continued to identify and discuss ideas for further modification of the computer program, and Philippe continued to further modify the computer program to add features based upon these discussions. As a result of these modifications, prior to October 1995, an operational computer program had been developed which included at least the capabilities recited in Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15, 18-22, 24-29, 31, 32, 41, 42, 45-49, 53, 54 and 61-63 of the above-referenced patent application as filed.

6. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these

statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: July 3, 1998

Paul A. Freiberg
Paul A. Freiberg